



City hosts first-time visitors

Haligonians were eager to board Chinese vessel PAGE 4

SPAIN INTO EURO FINAL

DEFENDING CHAMPS NEED PENALTY KICKS TO KNOCK OUT PORTUGAL

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Thursday, June 28, 2012

News worth sharing.



SPEAKING BRIEFLY

Spencer Andrews hands out a pamphlet during a Moore's charity event to collect used men's professional attire to help unemployed workers make a good first impression. Scantily clad men held signs that read "Give me the suit off your back" at the corner of Barrington Street and Spring Garden Road on Wednesday. Similar events were held across the country. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Shipbuilding delay a worry for Mulcair

Concerns. Federal NDP leader says region depends on promise

and the parliamentary budget officer have also raised serious concerns.

But Mulcair said he isn't in favour of scaling back the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy.

"We understand first of all how important (the NSPS) is for our military and second of all, how important it is for the region," Mulcair said.

That the start date for Canada's next generation of warships appears to be a moving target is cause for concern, according to NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair.

Speaking in Dartmouth Wednesday, Mulcair said he believes the federal government and Irving Shipbuilding Ltd. have yet to reach a contract on the ships due to budgetary challenges within the Department of National Defence.

"We're quite concerned with what appears to be putting back the dates further and further," he told reporters. "We do hope that will carry through. For the region it's extraordinarily important."

The federal Conservatives are currently re-examining their 20-year, \$490-billion Canada First Defence Strategy in the light of the controversy surrounding the F-35 fighter jet. The opposition repeatedly hammered the Conservatives on their handling of that file. The federal auditor general

Mulcair was in town to talk about the issue of fleet separation in the fisheries. He, along with Dartmouth-Cole Harbour MP Robert Chisholm,

met with a group of fisheries advocates concerned about rumoured changes planned for owner-operator and fleet separation policies.

They argue removing the policies would pave the way for large companies to snap up the independent fishery. But a spokesperson for Fisheries Minister Keith Ashfield said they are simply consulting with fishermen on how to improve the fisheries. ALEX BOULTIER/METRO



Thomas Mulcair



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VIA Rail to halve its service between Halifax and Montreal

Cutbacks. VIA says the chop is due to decreased ridership, but auto-union head says more people ride the trains every year



ALEX BOUTILIER
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VIA Rail is cutting the number of round trips between Halifax and Montreal by half.

The federal Crown corporation announced Wednesday it will cut the number of trips on its Ocean line from six to three per week. The company cited declining demand as the reason, despite the fact that the line had 7,000 more passengers in 2011 than a year before.

"Several efforts have been made to at least maintain ridership on the Ocean," Denis Pinsonneault, VIA's chief operating officer, told reporters. "However, the market has evolved.... We still believe there's a strong market for VIA Rail, but the reality is over the last 15 years there has been a decline in our ridership."

Pinsonneault repeatedly said recent federal budget cuts

Ridership

134,000

The approximate amount of people who rode the VIA Rail Ocean line in 2011, up from 127,000 in 2010.

did not drive the decision, noting ridership has decreased by 50 per cent since 1997.

The head of the Canadian Auto Workers Union Local 4005 disputes the company's line that the demand isn't there. "Year after year, our ridership has gone up 7.8 per cent," Brown said. "I work on the trains. Since January, my trains have been sold out. Sold out, no room. You want to travel, travel the next day."

The company expects the service cut will affect 45 employees, but Brown said that number could be much higher. She also said the company has done very little to promote the service in the Maritimes.

VIA Rail lost more than \$292 million before its federal operating grant in 2011 — more than half of its \$574-million budget. That's actually a slightly smaller operating deficit than 2010, when the corporation ran a \$297-million deficit.



A VIA train leaves the Halifax station in this file photo. VIA Rail announced Wednesday it's cutting its Halifax-to-Montreal route by half in October. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

First black-affairs officer to be appointed by HRM

The Halifax Regional Municipality is about to appoint its first black-affairs officer to make sure needs and services are delivered to the African-Nova Scotian community.

Chris Bryant, HRM's acting managing director for government relations and external affairs, is remaining mum on the identity of the candidate, saying only that she's African-Nova Scotian.

Racial issues

"You don't have to go back very far to find racial tensions were very high."

Chris Bryant, HRM's acting managing director for government relations

The position's advertisement said that "preference will be given to qualified can-

didates who are of African descent."

Controversy raged last year throughout Nova Scotia's black community about the appointment of Carol Nixon — a white woman from out of province — as executive director of the Africville Heritage Trust, a non-profit organization. She was eventually replaced by an African-Nova Scotian, Sunday Miller.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sentence. Man gets seven years for fiancée's murder

A Nova Scotia man convicted of manslaughter in the death of his fiancée more than a year ago has been sentenced to seven years in prison.

A provincial Supreme Court jury found James Leroy Leopold guilty last month in the killing of Laura Lee Robertson.

Judge Kevin Coady gave Leopold credit for one year already served in jail.

Crown attorney Leigh-Ann Bryson said Wednesday she is pleased with the sentence, adding that it is within the Crown's range of recommendation.

After the sentence was read, Robertson's son Tim thanked the Queens RCMP detachment and residents of Liverpool for their support.

"Thank you to all the people that helped us along the way. It means so much to us," he said.

Leopold told police in a videotaped interview that he hit Robertson because she bit him during a sex act at their apartment in Liverpool on April 13, 2011, and killed her. He said he struck Robertson once in the neck while in bed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NEWS

On the web

Society can take the heat, says ExxonMobil CEO

Rex Tillerson, CEO of ExxonMobil, said that society will be able to adapt to the warming of the planet caused by the burning of fossil fuels, and he blamed an "illiterate" public and "lazy" press for the spread of "misconceptions." Go online to metronews.ca to read the full story.

Mobile news



A softer side to all the rucking and mauling: Members of Canada's national women's rugby team have bared all in a calendar aimed at promoting positive body images and raising a little cash ahead of Summer Olympics in 2016. Scan the code to read the full story.

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Canadian, Chinese militaries proving to be good sports on the pitch

Soccer. Chinese navy vessel docked in Halifax during globe-spanning goodwill tour

For Canadian and Chinese sailors, bridging the language barrier can be difficult.

Few from either country spoke the other's language at Huskies Stadium on Wednesday morning, aside from some interpreters and an embassy representative.

But no matter one's native tongue, Capt. Richard Gravel, commanding officer at Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Scott, said everyone understands the camaraderie

of a good, friendly game of soccer. "It's a great way to make friends," Gravel said while watching the action from the stadium sidelines on Saint Mary's University campus. "Even if you don't talk to each other, sport is the great equalizer."

"You shake the guys hand and pick him up if you knock him down. Sport is a great way to get together and have some friendly competition."

Members of the Canadian navy and few army and air-force representatives played crew members of the Zheng He, a Chinese ship docked in Halifax as part of the Chinese navy's first-ever visit to the city.

The Zheng He has been on a worldwide trip for the last

two months to spread goodwill among China's allies, visiting Europe and parts of Asia before heading here. It leaves on Thursday for Jamaica and Ecuador.

Senior officers from Canada and China had been meeting since the vessel arrived on Monday, but for the majority of the crew members the match was their first chance to meet.

"It's a symbol of friendship and co-operation between the Chinese navy and Canadian Forces," said Bin Zheng, a representative from the Chinese Embassy in Ottawa.

"It's important for us to know each other and understand each other and pave the road for future co-operation."

SPENCER BUELL/FOR METRO



Chinese sailors belt out their national anthem prior to a friendly soccer game between members of the Canadian navy and their Chinese counterparts at Saint Mary's University on Wednesday morning. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

'We are proud of this moment,' says Chinese student in Halifax

On its third day docked in Halifax Harbour on Wednesday, the Zheng He was open to the public for a stroll on board.

The ship attracted crowds of Chinese Canadians and others from Halifax eager to climb up the walkway to the ship's deck and have a look

around.

Security was tight at the entranceway to the dock — those interested had their ID's inspected at the gate and waited in a snaking line to get through a checkpoint.

Members of the media were also restricted from reporting or taking pictures

within navy boundaries.

But a few outside the base said they enjoyed the chance to take part in what they called a historic moment — the first time a Chinese ship has ever docked in the city, and the only stop in North America on a worldwide tour.

A Chinese vessel last vis-

ited Canada in 2006 on a trip to Victoria.

"We are proud of this moment," said Wei Liang, a Chinese national in Halifax on a student visa.

"China and Canada have a good relationship. This is good for Chinese international students."

SPENCER BUELL/FOR METRO



The Harbour Hopper drives by the docked Chinese ship Zheng He on the Halifax waterfront on Wednesday. SPENCER BUELL/FOR METRO

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Stage star jumps at opportunity to perform at this year's Tattoo

Tradition. Around 11,000 people in 78 countries tune in to the live-streaming web cam event every day



JENNIFER TAPLIN
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Within hours of getting a call that he was needed at the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo, theatre star Peter Karrie jumped on a plane from Europe.

"Within six hours — I missed a night's sleep," he said. "I said name it, I'm coming."

He heard about the Tattoo last summer when he performed at Neptune Theatre but has never seen the show.

An act pulled out, and Karrie, who has performed Phantom of the Opera more than 2,700 times, filled in, donating

his time.

Joining him is Truro native Brenna Conrad. The 28-year-old learned a song from one of the most famous musicals of all time on Tuesday and performed it for the media launch on Wednesday. She hit notes that reached high above the Metro Centre's roof.

"She's a real talent. I wish she had the opportunity to play Christine when I was doing the Phantom," he said.

As for Conrad, she's thrilled to sing with someone of Karrie's calibre. She's performed in the Tattoo many times, but not like this.

"It's an honour and a privilege," she said. "I was thrilled, to hear he was coming — thrilled."

So how does Phantom of the Opera fit in with a military-based Tattoo commemorating the bicentennial of the War of 1812, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the 100th anniversary of the Titanic disaster?

Quoted

"I've been in shows where you've got maybe 100 cast, but 2,000? And it's a dangerous show: You've got trapeze artists, gun runners with canons; it's not a simple thing."

Peter Karrie

"It's an eclectic mix of art," explained Karrie. "I mean, you've got trapeze artists and what has that to do with military? Not a lot."

Karrie and Conrad are not only singing Phantom at the Tattoo but also Cole Porter music, sea shanties and My Heart Will Go On from the Titanic movie.

"Eat your heart out, Celine," Karrie said.

The Tattoo opens Canada Day Sunday and runs until July 8.



Truro native Brenna Conrad sings a song from Phantom of the Opera with theatre star Peter Karrie during the media preview of the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo at the Metro Centre on Wednesday. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Despite progress, N.S. autism plan neglects adults: Critics



Health Minister Dave Wilson
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Critics say while a year-old Nova Scotia government plan aimed at providing more services for people living with autism has improved support for young children, older kids and adults continue to be left behind.

A report released by the province on Wednesday said increased funding has meant that most preschool children

are now being treated in an intensive, early-intervention program providing one-on-one therapy.

In the past two years the government has doubled its annual funding for early intensive behaviour intervention from \$4 million to \$8 million.

Government figures show that 110 preschoolers are now taking part in early in-

tensive-behaviour intervention, while the program has doubled its capacity and can serve up to 160 children.

The program teaches three- and four-year-old children how to socialize and develop the communication skills needed to enter the school system.

"I'm happy that the people coming up have the resources I didn't have,"

said Barbara Gillis, whose 21-year-old son, Paul, is currently institutionalized with people suffering from a range of problems that don't include autism.

Cynthia Carroll, executive director of Autism Nova Scotia, said there is currently no transition support for young adults leaving high school and there is a "crisis-level" lack of residential support

for adults as they get older.

Health Minister David Wilson said that, with current budget restraints, the province feels it can do more by targeting autistic children at an earlier age.

However, he conceded that more has to be done to improve support programs for older children and adults living with autism.

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Crowds gather on the Halifax waterfront to watch the tall ships pass in 2004. THE DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO

Plenty to keep you entertained for the arrival of tall ships

Waterfront. Last festival in 2009 drew 600,000 people



JENNIFER TAPLIN

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It would be easier to explain what's not involved in the Tall Ships festival this summer. Organizers and sponsors of the July 19 to 23 waterfront festival outlined the events at a press conference at the Seaport Market Wednesday morning. It took several speakers to make it through the itinerary.

Try a pirate-themed outdoor film fest, free concerts and a rendition of the 1812 Overture polished off with church bells, canon fire and fireworks.

"We want to blow the roof off the city that night to celebrate what we have going on," said Andrew Cochran with CBC Maritimes.

There will be fireworks at "nautical twilight" every night. Taste of Nova Scotia will have its own pavilion with a culinary stage and celebrity chefs, including Anna Olson and Chuck Hughes.

Theodore Tugboat will act as a ferry to shuttle families over to Alderney Landing, which will be home to a pirates cove and a haunted house.

Casino Nova Scotia will have outdoor and indoor stages, and CBC is sponsoring a long, long list of cultural events at their pavilion, including kids' shows and free concerts. The Arr-Fresco filmFesto will feature four pirate-related movies on the waterfront.

Parks Canada is offering several events to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812, and will give tours of Georges Island, including the underground tunnels.

Colin MacLean, president and CEO of Waterfront Development, said this is the first



In-Flight Safety takes the stage at 10 p.m. July 21 for a free concert.

time the Tall Ships festival will incorporate concerts, cultural and historical events.

"We're going to make this event like we have never experienced before," he said.

But there's also the core event — the awe-inspiring tall ships. And there will be 20 to 24 of them.

Adults can tour the ships for \$5 a day; kids under 12 get in free. The Parade of Sail is scheduled for July 23, a few days before half the fleet sails north to Port Hawkesbury and the rest will sail south to Lunenburg.

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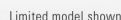
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Cape Breton. Man says he's being forced to retire after turning 65 years old

Doug Foster says the Cape Breton Regional Municipality is forcing him into retirement.

The municipality's director of planning turned 65 earlier this month. He said he's "terminated" effective Friday.

The province passed legislation amending the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act in 2009 to eliminate the exemption that let employers discriminate on the basis of a person's age by making them retire.

A complaint was filed with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission eight months ago, Foster said Tuesday.

"I'm just waiting for that to take its course, so I don't want to say too much more than that," he said.

The Human Rights Commission stipulates there will still be situations where "for legitimate reasons based on job requirements, an employer can require a person to retire," such as in law-enforcement or firefighting where physical demands need to be met. However, it can no longer be based on an arbitrary age limit.

Foster started working as a planner for the former city of Sydney in 1979. He became

No official word

The Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission wouldn't confirm whether it has received an official complaint from Foster. The application isn't available to the public.

director of planning upon municipal amalgamation in 1995.

The precise reasons why Foster wants to remain working aren't publicly known. He would only say that he likes his work. "I want to work. I don't agree with mandatory retirement."

Outside of a person's mental and physical capability to do the job, the act also permits forced retirement in the case it adversely affects a bona fide pension plan.

Foster is a member of the CBRM's defined-contribution plan. It remains in recovery mode following the 2009 economic downturn. The poor results of the plan have forced many people contemplating retirement to stay in the workforce longer.

CAPE BRETON POST



Strutting their stuff for a good cause

Around 100 men strutted through Scotia Square mall wearing high heels on Wednesday during the YMCA's fifth annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event. The campaign raises money for women fleeing abusive relationships. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Hold-up

Man arrested after failed bank robbery

A 40-year-old Hubbards man has been arrested after he tried to rob a bank in Upper Tantallon on Wednesday.

Just after 11 a.m., Halifax police were called to the Scotiabank at 3650 Hammonds Plains Rd. in response to a holdup alarm being sounded. Police say a man went into the bank and produced a note announcing he was staging a robbery, but there was no signs of a weapon. Police arrived and arrested him. METRO

Resignation

King's College looking for a new president

The University of King's College issued a release Wednesday saying it has accepted the resignation of Dr. Anne Leavitt and is now in the process of trying to select and appoint an interim president. METRO

Truro. High N.S. power rates partly behind polymer plant's move

Cheaper electricity rates in the United States are part of the reason behind a transfer of work from Intertape Polymer in Truro to the United States.

"Your part of the world apparently is one of the most expensive areas to operate in," spokesman Rick Leckner said from Montreal, where the company is based.

"In order for the company to remain sustainable, they have to make certain changes because they want to keep that plant there. But it is a very expensive area to operate in, to a degree, because of the power rates."

The company announced Tuesday it is moving the Truro plant's shrink-film production to another company facility in Tremonton, Utah, as part of a North American reorganization to help centralize specific operations.

Including management, approximately 325 people are employed at the plant, of which 27 workers are in the shrink-film department.

We are aware: Gov't.

- In response to questions about electricity costs, Toby Koffman, a spokesman with the province's Department of Economic Rural Development and Tourism, said the government is aware that such issues exist.

Most of those affected will be hourly workers, and Leckner said all possible efforts will be made to absorb those workers into the woven sectors of the plant during the transition period over the next six to eight months.

Layoffs, if any, will be restricted to a "handful," he said.

The company said in its announcement that gross savings by the overall moves it is making, including adjustments in the U.S., are expected to be more than \$5 million in 2013 and approximately \$6 million in each subsequent year.

TRURO DAILY NEWS

Lebanon jail. Farmer says Ottawa failed to fight for his freedom

During the 373 days he spent in a Lebanese jail on allegations he tried to export rotten potatoes to Algeria, Henk Tepper says the day his daughter graduated from high school was among the most difficult.

The farmer from New Brunswick spoke for the first time about his ordeal on Wednesday, blaming the federal government for not doing enough to help get his release as he became increasingly depressed at the prospect of facing trial in Algeria.

While the federal government says it used quiet diplomacy to gain his freedom, Tepper said he was told by the

Canadian ambassador in Beirut they were getting ready for him to be extradited to face the charges. Tepper was released and flew home to Canada on March 31.

"The government of Canada has worked persistently on his behalf," John Babcock, spokesman for Diane Ablonczy, the federal minister of state for foreign affairs, said in an email.

But Tepper said he got a very different message from Canadian officials in Beirut.

"As far as I'm concerned and what I know, they haven't done anything to bring me home. They wanted me to go to Algeria." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Henk Tepper at his potato farm in Drummond. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Citadel site

SilverBirch to launch new hotel project



The former Citadel Hotel on Brunswick Street. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

SilverBirch Hotels and Resorts is hosting a press conference Thursday for a "special announcement" on the development plans for the mostly-demolished Citadel Hotel site on Brunswick Street.

The announcement will be in regards to "two new hotels that will be built at the development site and the future growth plans and brand partnerships" of their hotels in the Maritimes.

After 48 years in operation, the doors of the Citadel hotel closed in January and crews started demolition of the site in the past few weeks. In January, managers of the hotel told Metro the project was pegged at \$60 million and would be open in the fall of 2013. **METRO**

Port Hawkesbury

Four charged in break-and-enter

Three men and a woman are facing charges in relation to a break-and-enter and assault at a Port Hawkesbury home last weekend.

Ashley Hunter, 19, and James O'Toole, 29, both of Dartmouth; Mitchell O'Toole, 19, of Port Hawkesbury; and Matthew Keizer, 23, of Lower Sackville face assault and break-and-enter charges.

METRO

Union action

Health-care workers vote to strike

More than 100 health-care workers at hearing and speech centres across Nova Scotia have voted to strike to back their contract demands.

The 138 workers, which include audiologists and speech language pathologists, are represented by Local 20 of the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union.

The union says 89 per cent of the ballots cast favoured strike action.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

YOUR SUMMER STAIN REMOVAL GUIDE

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Queen, IRA icon's grip-and-grin symbolizes truce

Irish republicanism.

Queen kept smiling as she shared a stage with a man linked to the killing of her cousin Lord Louis Mountbatten

Queen Elizabeth II and a former Irish Republican Army commander offered each other the hand of peace Wednesday in a long-awaited encounter symbolizing Northern Ireland's progress in achieving reconciliation after decades of violence.

The monarch and Martin McGuinness met privately inside Belfast's riverside Lyric Theatre during a cross-community arts event featuring Northern Ireland musicians, poets and artists.

Media were barred from seeing their first handshake during an ice-breaker over coffee and tea. But the two shook

Let it reign?

"If I may give voice to the oft-declared desire of the people of Northern Ireland, on whose loyalty and support you can always depend: Long may you reign over us."

Peter Robinson, the Protestant head of Northern Ireland's power-sharing government. Martin McGuinness did not attend this part of the royal ceremonies.

hands again a half-hour later for the cameras' benefit, documenting a moment that would have been inconceivable back in the days when IRA leaders were plotting to kill the British Royal Family. McGuinness' Irish nationalist Sinn Féin party had never attended a royal function before.

Underlying the sensitivity of the occasion, no live footage or sound was permitted to be broadcast. Outside, flak-

jacketed police shut down all roads surrounding the theatre and told residents to stay inside their homes.

Both smiled broadly as McGuinness took the Queen's white-gloved hand and spoke to her for about five seconds. Afterward McGuinness said he had told her in Gaelic — a language neither of them speaks — "Slán agus beannacht" and told her this meant "goodbye and good-speed." The latter word actually means "blessing."

The 86-year-old head of state, resplendent in a suit and broad-brimmed hat of matching apple green, didn't speak but kept smiling as she shared a stage with a man linked to the killing of her cousin Lord Louis Mountbatten. Experts on Irish republicanism say McGuinness, 62, was the IRA's chief of staff when the outlawed group blew up Mountbatten's yacht in 1979, killing the 79-year-old and three others. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Queen Elizabeth II shakes hands with Northern Ireland Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness, a former IRA commander, as First Minister Peter Robinson watches in Belfast on Wednesday. PAUL FAITH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Compromise

It's been a long time coming

The event marked the latest moment in Northern Ireland peacemaking that has deliv-

ered a series of once-unthinkable moments of compromise.

Irish republicans long had rebuffed invitations to attend British royal events that occur regularly in Northern Ireland. But analysts said McGuinness'

U-turn became inevitable once the Queen made her first state visit to the Republic of Ireland in May 2011, where she honoured Irish rebels who died fighting for independence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Monsoon rains prove deadly in Bangladesh

Dozens dead.

Landslides bury flimsy huts with families asleep inside

Landslides and floods caused by heavy monsoon rains killed at least 91 people in southern Bangladesh and many more were missing, the government said Wednesday.

Officials said the landslides occurred mainly in remote villages with poor roads, making rescue work more difficult.

At least 37 died in Cox's Bazar, 33 in neighbouring Bandarban and another 21 in Chittagong, mostly in a series of landslides, the Disaster Management Ministry said. It said soldiers were joining the search for the missing.

Three days of torrential rain in the region of small hills and forests dislodged huge chunks of earth, which buried flimsy huts where families were sleeping late

Quoted

"I could survive because I was visiting a relative. The rain had kept me from returning home."

Rafiqul Islam, 11, the only member of his family to survive

Tuesday and early Wednesday. Many homeless people live at the foot of the hills or close to them despite warnings from authorities.

Many of the dead were women and children, officials said. In Bandarban, an 11-year-old boy was the only member of his family to survive because he was away when mud buried his hut. His parents and three siblings perished.

"I could survive because I was visiting a relative," said the boy, Rafiqul Islam. "The rain had kept me from returning home."

Monsoon floods are common in Bangladesh, a delta nation of 160 million people.



A Bangladeshi woman, left, whose relative died in a landslide, is consoled by another on the outskirts of Chittagong, Bangladesh, on Wednesday.

ANRUP TITU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Volunteers using loud-speakers warned people about the danger of landslides during the rains, said Jaynul Bari, a government administrator in Cox's Bazar. The floods inundated dozens of villages and were disrupting communications in the region.

Flood waters covered many

roads and washed away a railway bridge, snapping road and rail links between Dhaka and the three districts.

An airport in Chittagong was closed after floodwaters swamped its runway, but reopened Wednesday after the rains stopped, officials said.

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Church scandal. Singer Sun Ho's pastor hubby charged with giant fraud

The founder of one of Singapore's largest evangelical churches was charged with fraud Wednesday for allegedly funnelling millions of dollars to his wife's singing career.

His wife, Ho Yeow Sun, is known professionally as Sun Ho.

She was not charged.

City Harvest Church founder Kong Hee, 47, was charged with three counts of conspiracy to commit criminal breach of trust in connection with a scheme to syphon about \$18 million US of church funds from 2007 to 2010.

Kong did not enter a plea and was freed on \$390,000 US bail after his passport was seized.

He would face up to 20 years in prison or a fine for each charge if found guilty.

He did not comment on the accusations in court but earlier had tweeted that he trusted Jesus and referred to Tuesday — the day he was arrested — as a "tough day."

He tweeted: "Tough day. I trust in You, Lord Jesus. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be

Mandarin, English

Singer Sun Ho has put out several Mandarin and English pop albums and songs.

- In 2007, she collaborated with Wyclef Jean on a production called China Wine.

done!"

Prosecutors also charged four other church leaders with breach of trust and conspiracy to commit falsification of accounts.

The charges follow a two-year police investigation sparked by local media reports that depicted Ho's lavish lifestyle, including a \$20,000-a-month Los Angeles mansion.

Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean said the church is free to hold regular services.

City Harvest, which has a congregation of more than 30,000 people, said church operations would continue as usual and declined to comment on the case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Medical oddity. Baby's tumour weighed 15 kg ... but he weighed only 12

Mexican doctors say they have removed a 15-kilogram tumour from the body of a two-year-old child who weighed only 12 kilograms.

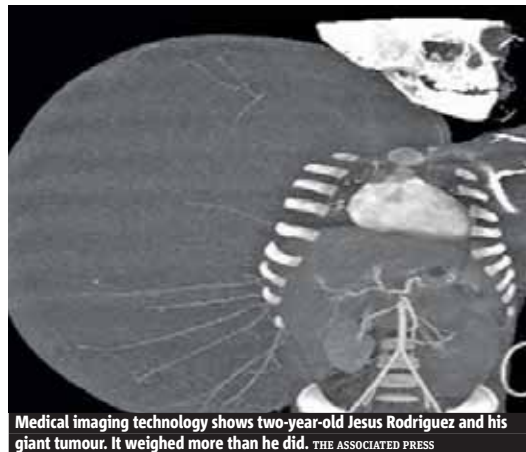
Dr. Gustavo Hernandez says Jesus Rodriguez from the northern state of Durango was born with a lump that eventually covered the right side of his body from his armpit to his hip.

Hernandez says it took

doctors at the La Raza Medical Centre in Mexico City 10 hours to remove the tumour on June 14. Hernandez, director of pediatrics at La Raza hospital, says the boy is recovering and doing well.

The doctor also said it was the first time Mexican doctors have removed a tumour bigger than the person carrying it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Medical imaging technology shows two-year-old Jesus Rodriguez and his giant tumour. It weighed more than he did. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zoo horror

Chimp mourns murdered baby

The mother of a baby chimpanzee that was killed by an adult male while Los Angeles Zoo visitors watched has been allowed to keep the infant's body overnight.

The zoo said leaving the dead baby with the mother gave her an opportunity to grieve after Tuesday's attack.

Experts say attacks by males on small offspring of other chimpanzees occur often in the wild and in captivity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Norway massacre

A new psych ward, just for Breivik

Even if found criminally insane, confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik is likely to remain inside the prison where he has been held since his bomb and gun attacks in July.

Norway's Health Directorate on Wednesday approved plans to build a psychiatric ward inside Oslo's Ila Prison, specially designed for the 33-year-old

right-wing extremist.

The self-styled anti-Muslim militant admitted killing 77 people last July.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lords not laughing?

U.K. gets set to ditch the dukes

Can Britain's government ditch the dukes and eject the earls?

Prime Minister David Cameron on Wednesday set out plans to replace Britain's 700-year-old House of Lords, the country's unelected upper chamber, with a smaller, mostly elected, body.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Garlic heist

Something smells about this case

Austrian police didn't need dogs to locate this suspected heist — 9.5 tons of garlic.

Police just followed the odour and stopped three vans about to cross into Hungary from Austria. Five men have been charged with receiving stolen goods.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'10 Kia Rio S (5 Speed, Roof 31k) **\$12,169**

'08 Honda Civic DXA (5 Speed, 36k) **\$11,959**

'08 Honda CRV LX AWD (Auto, 77k) **\$10,995**

'08 Mini Cooper (5 Speed, 37k) **\$17,379**

'08 Mazda 6 (Auto, 86k) **\$10,888**

'10 Honda Civic DX (Auto, 73k) **\$16,995**

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Rescue workers show their respect by removing their hard hats as a body is carried out of the Elliot Lake, Ont., wreckage. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Out of the rubble, the final sadness

Elliot Lake tragedy. Rescue crews bow their heads in sorrow as two bodies are removed from collapsed-mall debris

Search-and-rescue workers removed their hats and bowed their heads in sorrow Wednesday as two bodies were removed from the wreckage of a partially collapsed shopping mall in Elliot Lake, Ont.

Crews who had spent the past two days sifting through the rubble of the Algo Cen-

Premier grieves, too

"We live in a big province, but it feels a lot smaller at a time like this as Ontarians come together to support the people of Elliot Lake. Together, we will lift them up as they recover from this tragedy."

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty

tre Mall used sophisticated equipment to try to clear a path to anyone who may have survived when a roof came crashing down through the two-storey building.

In the end, however, the rescue mission became a recovery operation.

Officials said crew members had only to search one

12-metre-long pile of rubble before wrapping up the operation Wednesday.

The bodies were removed after a specialized robotic arm worked through the night to clear a path through the debris that accumulated when a section of the roof crashed through the two-storey building on Saturday.

The operation required crews to orchestrate the collapse of a precariously balanced escalator and remove slabs of concrete.

The removal of the bodies marked a tragic culmination of a risky rescue operation that many said came too late.

Elliot Lake Mayor Rick Hamilton called it "a deep, deep tragedy" — one that affects not just the victims and their families but the entire community.

"It's with heavy hearts and the deepest condolences on behalf of every citizen in Elliot Lake that we offer our condolences to the families," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cuts put rescue teams at risk, feds told

The Harper government was warned cutting federal funding would likely cripple rescue teams like the one working at a caved-in mall in Elliot Lake, Ont.

Public Safety Canada evaluated the Heavy Urban Search and Rescue units five years ago and found that without funding from Ottawa, there was a risk some

or all of the teams would not survive.

"There is a need for the federal government to continue contributions to build capacity and capability for teams focused on Heavy Urban Search and Rescue," the report found.

A Heavy Urban Search and Rescue unit from Toronto has been leading operations in El-

liot Lake, where a mall roof collapsed Saturday afternoon. Two bodies have been found.

The September 2007 Public Safety report lauded the teams as a "national resource." The units are based in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Halifax and Manitoba.

The lion's share of funding for Canada's five Heavy Urban Search and Rescue units

comes from the federal Joint Emergency Preparedness Program. But the Conservatives quietly axed the program in the March budget.

A Public Safety official told the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs in April that federal funding for the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program will end next year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Banned pedophilia group may appeal for right to exist

Norway. The group is calling the move to ban it an attack on 'freedom of expression'

A Dutch court outlawed a pedophile association Wednesday, saying its promotion of sexual contact between adults and children breaches the country's generally accepted moral values.

The civil court in Assen ordered the association, Martijn, to immediately be dissolved.

The court said in a statement that Martijn is a threat to public order because it "glorifies sexual contact (between adults and children) and presents it as something that should be normal and acceptable."

Its chairman, Marthijn Uitenbogaard, called the decision "an attack on the freedom of expression."

"We are not happy and we

Royal criticism

- Martijn also made headlines in 2007 when a member posted on the group's website photos of the then three-year-old Princess Amalia, daughter of the heir to the Dutch throne.
- The royal house went to court and won an injunction barring Martijn from publishing such photos on its site and Crown Prince Willem-Alexander harshly criticized the group for using the pictures.

are considering whether to appeal," he said in a telephone interview.

The organization says on its website it was established in 1982 in the traditionally tolerant Netherlands as a "platform for discussion of pedophilia." It

was largely ignored for years, but has been under attack more recently from lawmakers and prosecutors who wanted it banned. Such groups are almost unknown elsewhere in Europe, despite many countries' history of safeguarding freedom of expression.

Martijn's former chairman, Ad van den Berg, was convicted last year of child-porn possession and sentenced to three years in prison. Van den Berg claimed the images and films were for scientific research.

The group said in a statement last month that the court should not honour the public prosecutor's request for a ban, saying it had never committed a crime. "It is naive to think that banning Martijn will make pedophiles disappear," the group, which claimed to have 60 Dutch members, said.

Prosecutors who sought the ban said they were satisfied with the court's decision.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Love thy neighbour

Neighbours and supporters of an Ecuadorian family about to be evicted throw water over the police as they break down the door of the family's home in Oviedo, Spain, Wednesday. The family could not keep up mortgage payments. Seventeen people locked themselves in the apartment and around 200 people gathered outside to try and stop the eviction. JAVIER BAULUZ/PERIODISMO HUMANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Free Speech. Comedians defend tweeter

Comedian Stephen Fry is among those supporting a British man appealing his conviction for tweeting that he would blow up an airport if his flight was cancelled.

Paul Chambers became an Internet free-speech cause célèbre when he was fined in 2010 for using Twitter to make his comment about Robin Hood Airport in northern England.

Chambers' high-profile supporters include Fry and British comedian Al Murray. Both accompanied Chambers to court Wednesday for an appeals hearing.

Chambers insists he was joking, but a court convicted him of sending menacing or offensive messages.

His lawyer argued that by that measure, William Shakespeare could have been convicted for quipping, "Let's kill all the lawyers."

One judge responded Wednesday: "That was a good joke in 1600 and it is still a good joke now."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Smoking linked to rare sleep disorder

New research. Study of almost 350 people with REM sleep behaviour disorder finds several potential risk factors

Smoking and pesticide exposure appear to be strong risk factors for a rare disorder that causes people to physically act out their dreams while asleep, even to the extent of punching and kicking their bedmates, research suggests.

Individuals with REM sleep behaviour disorder (RBD) do not exhibit the reduced muscle tone — called atonia — that usually occurs during sleep,

leaving them able to move freely.

"Essentially, all of us normally are paralyzed when we go into our REM sleep," said Dr. Ron Postuma, a neurologist at McGill University who led the study, conducted at 13 sites in 10 countries. "So we're having very vivid dreams, but we don't move. Our eyes will move and we'll breathe, but that's it."

In people with RBD, the body system that keeps sleepers paralyzed stops working, so whatever a person dreams, they are capable of doing.

In their study, researchers found that those with the disorder were 43 per cent more likely to be smokers. Two-thirds were more

Tragic example

In 2009, a British man strangled his wife to death while the couple were camping. Falling asleep with the sound of people in the campground "yelling and screaming," Brian Thomas dreamed he and his wife Christine were being attacked, and in his sleep state he tried to defend her by choking an imagined attacker.

likely to have worked as farmers, and were more than twice as likely to have been exposed to pesticides.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Watermelon 2.0

JA (Japan Agricultural Cooperation) Kagawa employees arrange cubic watermelons to be shipped in Zentsuji city, Kagawa Prefecture, western Japan, Wednesday. The 19-by-19-by-19-centimetre square fruits, grown in transparent square containers, will be sold for 10,000 yen (\$125) each. KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Members of the Knights of Columbus Halifax Council 1097 extend congratulations to the winners of The Vincent & Eileen Coy Scholarship 2012.

The Scholarship was established in 2005 in memory of the late Vincent Coy on a bequest administered by Halifax Council 1097, for the purpose of scholarships for Catholic youth in the Halifax area.

In 2012, thirteen scholarships were awarded to the following students in local HRM High Schools:

Ms. Claire Beckers
Citadel High School

Ms. Jillian Macdonald
Sacred Heart School

Ms. Emma McGuire
Sacred Heart School

Ms. Katherine Beckers
Citadel High School

Ms. Siobhan Morris
Citadel High School

Ms. Hana Swaray
Charles P. Allen High School

Ms. Martazia Johan
Halifax Grammar School

Ms. Hannah Fiander
Citadel High School

Ms. Maytoe M. Tommy
Citadel High School

Ms. Sarah Giacomantonio
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Residents evacuate as Colorado wildfire torches houses, land

Waldo Canyon Fire.

No injuries reported yet as fire burns through about 4 hectares of Air Force Academy land

A raging wildfire destroyed dozens of houses overnight and charred land on the edges of the U.S. Air Force Academy on Wednesday, while thick smoke and intense, towering flames kept officials from learning the full scope of damage to Colorado's second-largest city.

The wildfire doubled in size overnight to about 62 square kilometres, and has so far forced mandatory evacuations for more than 32,000 residents, Colorado Springs emergency-management director Brett Waters said. Among those urgently evacuated Tuesday evening were residents at the academy.

The fire burned about



The Waldo Canyon fire burns an entire neighborhood near the foothills of Colorado Springs, Colo., late Tuesday. HELEN H. RICHARDSON/THE DENVER POST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

four hectares of land along the southwest boundary of the academy's 72.5-square-kilometre boundary, but no injuries or damage to academy structures have been reported.

Steve Cox, an aide to Mayor Steve Bach, said Wednesday morning that the blaze has consumed dozens of houses elsewhere. A more precise figure wasn't available because of the

intensity of the fire.

Heavy smoke and ash billowed from the mountain foothills west of the city. Bright yellow and orange flames flared in the night, often signalling

another home lost to the Waldo Canyon Fire, which is the No. 1 priority for U.S. firefighters.

The White House said the president would tour the area on Friday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Blazing West

Extreme heat has caused more wildfires in Western states.

- A blaze in central Utah has burned down 56 structures, the majority of which are homes, officials said Wednesday. Authorities are about halfway through their damage assessment of a fire that has burned about 18,616 hectares.
- A wildfire north of Billings, Mont., caused hundreds of families to be evacuated from their homes as the blaze burned more than 7,285 hectares. Musselshell County Attorney Kent Sipe told The Billings Gazette that at least 60 homes had burned.

Tropical storm leaves Florida in soggy state



National Guard troops drive through floodwater. DAVE MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tropical Storm Debby dumped more than 60 centimetres of rain on Florida, inundated many homes and washed out roads before moving off the Atlantic coast Wednesday.

The storm was downgraded to a tropical depression Tuesday as it slogged across northern Florida, leaving some areas in several feet of water. Debby knocked out power to thousands of people, and ruined va-

cations for some, as it lingered in the Gulf for several days before washing ashore.

Along the Panhandle, some people were using boats to get back into their homes to remove valuables. Wakulla County Commission Chairman Alan Brock said residents can't remember flooding ever being this bad.

Water was up to the roofs at some homes in low-lying

Washed out

"The water came in so fast last night. We were lucky to get out what we could. My shed is underwater."

Jorge Torres of Live Oak, Fla.

areas of Live Oak. Several feet of water remained around

businesses in downtown near the courthouse and many roads were impassable.

"It's not just people on the river, it's neighbourhoods, it's places that have never been flooded," Brock said. "It's pretty heartbreaking. It's people who have built on hills and never expected water and because of that don't have flood insurance and now their homes are destroyed." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Tories issue more layoff notifications

Public service. Feds inform more than 5,000 employees in various departments they could lose their jobs as the government slashes spending

A fourth wave of job-loss notifications washed over the federal public service Wednesday as the Conservatives appeared to be trying to shore up support for the cuts.

Union leaders reported that just over 5,000 employees in more than 13 departments were told they could lose their jobs as the government seeks to slash spending.

The job-loss notices were juxtaposed with a series of Conservative government press releases highlighting both spending and saving initiatives.

Unions have long accused the government of being

too secretive about the cuts and their concerns were bolstered last week by another battle in the continuing war between the parliamentary budget officer and the Tories.

Kevin Page published a legal opinion stating that 64 federal departments and agencies are breaking the law by withholding basic information on the 2012 budget from him, prompting the government to accuse him of overstepping his mandate.

As the standoff between those two sides continues, unions continued to press for transparency.

"This government is misleading Canadians when it says these cuts won't impact services we all rely on," said Robyn Benson, president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, in a statement.

"We need Stephen Harper and his ministers to stop hiding behind spin and start talking to all Canadians about the services we are losing." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Google challenges Amazon

Product management director Hugo Barra, at the Google I/O conference in San Francisco on Wednesday, unveils Google's challenge to Amazon's Kindle Fire — the new Google Nexus7 that will sell for \$199 U.S. Google also made prototypes of its futuristic, Internet-connected glasses available for people to test out. Project Glass will only be sold for \$1,500 to people attending its annual conference for computer programmers. **PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

TD Bank. New borrowing rules projected to slow growth

Canada's economy will underperform even moderate expectations in the next two years, TD Bank economists predicted Wednesday, adding that recent tightening of mortgage and credit rules is contributing to the slowdown.

In a new forecast, the TD Bank now expects growth in Canada this year to average 2.1 per cent, shaving a tenth of a point from its March outlook. And it expects two per cent growth in 2013, down four-tenths of a point from the earlier forecast.

TD is the latest of a list of forecasting groups to officially or unofficially downgrade their outlook for the economy, with some — particularly Capital Economics — coming in even weaker.

The Bank of Canada is expected to follow suit at its

Unemployment rate

7.1%

TD says Canada's national unemployment rate should decline slightly to 7.1 per cent in 2013 from the current rate of 7.3 per cent.

next policy announcement in mid-July and write down a call for 2.4 per cent growth in both 2012 and 2013.

TD Bank chief economist Craig Alexander said conditions have deteriorated through much of the world in the past few months.

Europe's problems with government debts in countries that use the euro currency have resurfaced, while China and the U.S. are both underperforming expectations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
97.51¢
(-0.15¢)

Natural gas: \$2.774 US (+7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,627.01 (+92.34)

TSX
11,410.94 (+76.52)

OIL
\$80.21 US (+85¢)

GOLD
\$1,578.40 US (-\$13.50)

Lawsuit. Judge orders Samsung to halt sales of Galaxy tablet computer

A judge late Tuesday ordered Samsung Electronics Co. to halt sales of its Galaxy 10.1 tablet computer while the court considers Apple's claim the South Korean tech giant illegally copied the design of the popular iPad.

U.S. District Judge Lucy

Koh said Apple Inc.'s lawsuit appeared likely to prevail.

"Apple has established a strong case on the merits," Koh said.

Koh had earlier said the two products are "virtually indistinguishable," but she declined in December to

take the dramatic step of prohibiting sales of the Galaxy 10.1. She changed her mind after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit told Koh to take another look at Apple's request for an injunction, ruling June 19 that it appeared the Cupertino-based com-

pany had a strong case.

Samsung said it was disappointed with the court's decision.

Samsung said it was disappointed with the court's decision.

"We will take necessary legal steps and do not expect the ruling to have a

significant impact on our business operations, as we possess a diverse range of Galaxy Tab products," it said in a statement.

Koh ordered Apple to post a \$2.6 million US bond in case it ultimately loses the case.

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MYTH BUSTERS: NEWSROOM EDITION



HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

It's unanimous: Journalists love Aaron Sorkin's *The Newsroom*.

That's not to say they enjoy the new TV show. The critical consensus according to Metacritic is "generally causing

critics to throw up in their mouths a little."

But journalists love the chance it gives us to gaze at our navels. In this case, we media types love to tut-tut when something happens on a fictional news show that wouldn't happen in real life.

Sure, we can watch an Indiana Jones movie and never think, "An archeologist probably wouldn't use a 5,000-year-old religious artifact as a snowboard, even if he was being chased by a Panzer tank."

But if we're watching a television show about news, suddenly we demand TV be a perfect reflection of reality. "He's having a beer at lunch!" We crow, "He'll be sleepy all afternoon! And he's figuring out the tip without his phone! So he can do math?! While you're at it, why don't you give him X-ray vision?"

We're a bit defensive because we're misunderstood. About 10 per cent of the population thinks we're noble crusaders against tyranny and injustice, an expectation that only a scant few live up to. And about 90 per cent of the population thinks we're pond scum.

With that in mind, here are some myths and realities about journalists I keep stored in my navel. Let's clear a few things up.

MYTH: Given *The Newsroom* is a Sorkin production, you can bet the characters will constantly be walking and talking. They'll barge into offices, they'll talk as they barrel down hallways. It's an important world, and they are on the move.

REALITY: Most journalists spend so much time in their chairs that their posture is roughly equivalent to Gollum from *The Lord of the Rings*. (Exception: People on their way to a smoke break.)

MYTH: We're all lefty pinkos.

REALITY: We're mostly lefty pinkos.

MYTH: Retweets are not endorsements.

REALITY: Yeah, sure.

MYTH: We are evil and smart. Just read the comments underneath online stories. (WARNING: By comment No. 10, this will officially drop your IQ to "avocado.") Comments teach us that reporters are liberal/conservative minions of the NDP/Conservatives who slant every story to bolster high taxes/the oilsands.

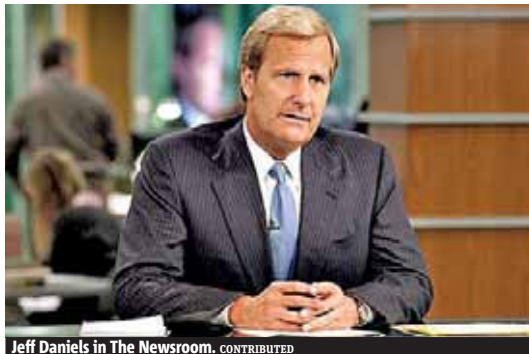
REALITY: We are well-meaning and not that bright. Most journalists want to make the world a better place, but don't have the first clue how to do that. So instead we write pieces that, for instance, illustrate that people at the gas station don't like high gas prices. (Also, most journalists have stopped reading the comments, so feel free to stop writing them.)

MYTH: We are well paid.

REALITY: Three words: Ha ha ha.

To sum up, we reporters are unhealthy, disillusioned, sarcastic and do not value your opinion. I hope that clears up any negative preconceptions you may have had.

And if you disagree with anything I said here, please, send me a comment.



Jeff Daniels in *The Newsroom*. CONTRIBUTED

Making footprints beak-ause



CAMERON SPENCER/GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Elephant conservation

Penguin stomps his feet for a cause

A Fiordland penguin named Mr. Munro leaves his paint prints on a canvas at Taronga Zoo Wednesday in Sydney, Australia. Taronga and Western Plains Zoo pledged a new elephant-conservation project in Thailand, and animals at Taronga made their pledge by dipping their feet and hands in paint and smudging them on canvas. GETTY IMAGES

Printed with paint

- The animals included an elephant, a Quokka (a small marsupial), a seal and a penguin.
- 4,000 animals at the zoo have dipped their paws in paint to promote awareness of animal conservation.
- In order to protect elephants from humans, two guard stations and a chain of outposts on the park grounds will be built at the Thailand site.



Tuka the Komodo dragon leaves his paw mark.

For a price

\$100,000

Taronga, in a joint effort with Zoos Victoria, is helping fund the \$100,000 project.

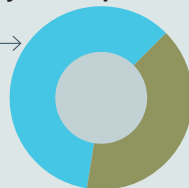


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I NEVER
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0%
WHEN MY
BILL COMES
IN



40%
EVERY TIME I
OPEN MY APP

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@angela_mercier:

Wow never seen so many men in high heel shoes #halifax walk a mile in her shoes #scotia square mall.

@frankwhite232:

#Halifax is going to need more crosswalks if this construction on every corner continues.

@NatalieKBobbitt:

connaught is nothing but construction - just avoid it friends :/ #traffic #halifax

@TheLessonLocker:

City buses off the road in Moncton and VIA rail service out of Halifax reduced. Does this seem like a step backward to anyone else?

@cassandrasears:

Halifax waterfront smells like bacon #droot #mysandwichissubpar

@AMANDA_MATT2011:

Happy that it is not raining in #halifax time for #sunnydays #beachdays #love

Welcome to the music business, here's a T-shirt

New Book. Martin Atkins has written a guide to warn about the pitfalls and perils of the music industry



BACKSTAGE PASS
Jenna Conter
halifax@metronews.ca

When you donate \$20 to Martin Atkins' Kickstarter.com campaign for his new book, *Band: Smart*, you will receive a T-shirt that says, Welcome to the music business: You're F—ed.

According to Atkins, long-time drummer, session musician, author and Halifax Pop Explosion guest and keynote speaker regular, when it comes to the music business, he'd rather new bands take a flying leap into reality.

"It's healthy to have a bit of skepticism in what can be a horrible, deceiving business," Atkins tells me by phone.

Halifax musician and record label co-owner Josh Hogan knew Atkins' perspective would provide local talent with a stern lesson in reality. It's one of the reasons Atkins is coming back again this fall to be apart of the next Pop Explosion.

"I met Martin in California and knew we needed him in Halifax so I introduced him to the Halifax Pop people," he said of Atkins. "There are few people as honest about the industry as he is."

A professional drummer for over 30 years, Atkins has worked with the likes of the Sex Pistols' Johnny Rotten

Quote

"It's easy to write a 'how to get a deal' book but I'd rather help stop the search for this shiny, fictitious deal in the sky, and teach them to manage their own business and understand what a deal could really do to, or for them."

Martin Atkins

Speaking about educating those who want to break into the music industry on its perils and its pitfalls.

and Nine Inch Nails. Suffice to say he knows whereof he speaks.

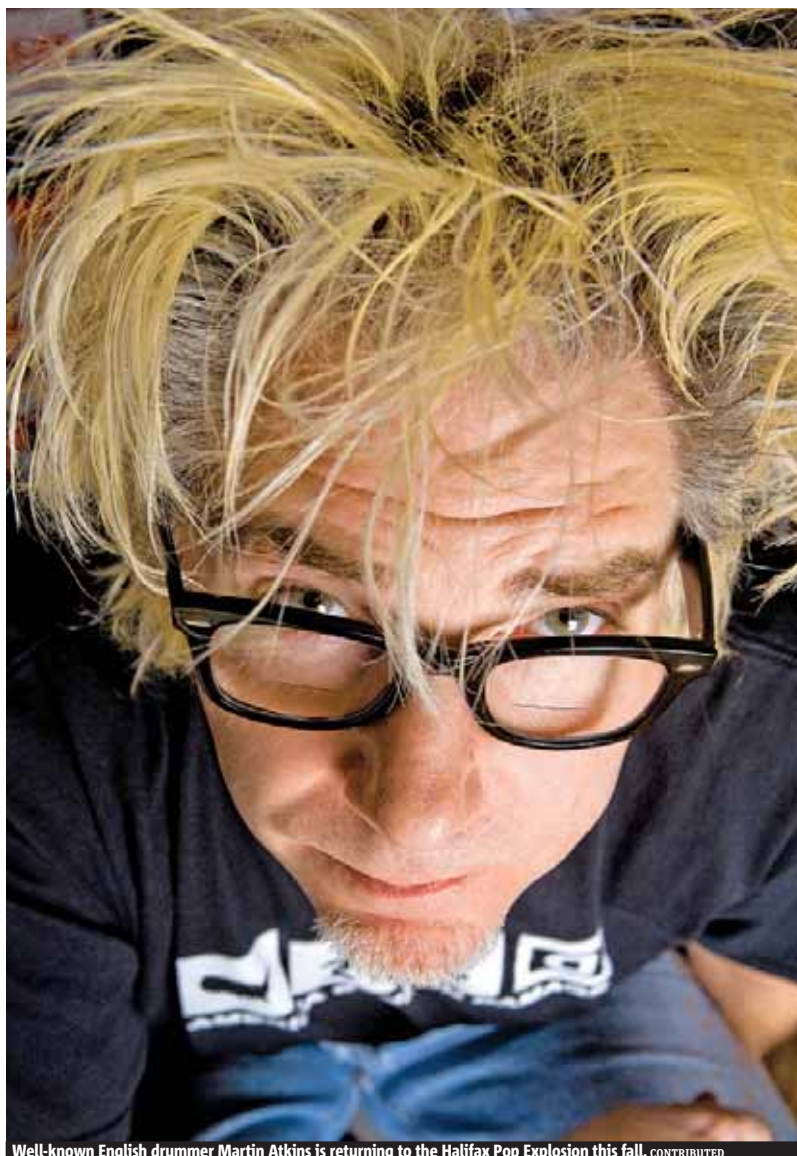
Set to hit shelves in September, *Band: Smart* is Atkins' "how to" for bands looking for success.

"It's easy to write a 'how to get a deal' book but I'd rather help stop the search for this shiny, fictitious deal in the sky, and teach them to manage their own business and understand what a deal could really do to, or for them."

One hit wonders have taught us all, according to Atkins, that momentum is what a band must focus on. Sadly, this no longer just applies to the music.

"If you're a genius marketer, and a crappy musician, it's over very quickly. If you're an amazing musician and a crappy marketer you're f—ed. It's just not that time anymore."

To learn more about Atkins' *Band: Smart* campaign visit kickstarter.com.



Well-known English drummer Martin Atkins is returning to the Halifax Pop Explosion this fall. CONTRIBUTED



SCENE

Scene in brief

Jack White to practise Voodoo

Touring in support of his critically acclaimed debut solo album *Blunderbuss*, Jack White has been added to the lineup for the 2012 Voodoo Music and Arts Experience. White joins other headliners for the event, set for Oct. 26 to 28, including Grammy-Award-winning trio Green Day and Neil Young & Crazy Horse. Other talent previously announced include The Avett Brothers, electronic dance music star Skrillex, Justice, Tomahawk, Say Anything, funk bassist Bootsy Collins, blues-rock guitarist Gary Clark Jr. and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web



Mandy Moore helps Dove promote importance of 'real-women' role models

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Reading Rainbow makes a comeback — as an iPad app

Reading into the future. LeVar Burton and his classic show adapt to a new, tech-savvy generation

JOANIE FERGUSON
Metro World News in New York

Even though Reading Rainbow is no longer on the airwaves, the children's program has not run its course.

Released only Wednesday, the Reading Rainbow iPad app became the No. 1 educational app in less than two days.

LeVar Burton, the app's host (and the co-founder and curator-in-chief for RRRKidz, Inc., the company behind it) catches us up with the series' quick turnaround for the newest generation.

How soon after Reading Rainbow stopped airing did you know you needed to adapt it to a new medium?

Fairly immediately. All the press that it got, and that sort of public outcry, was surprising. It really got our attention. We thought, it's not over for this brand. It's ripe for a reinvention of itself, and we started focusing on it immediately.

Why is now the right time to bring the show back?

I think it's just that weird confluence of a lot of factors. When we began this journey, the iPad hadn't even come out yet. And when it did, it really helped inform what we were in the process of figuring out. Another one of the factors is that there is a whole generation of adults now who grew up on this show, and they really want something that they can share with their kids that they feel good about...

Kids today...

Metro asked LeVar Burton how technology is changing the reading experience for kids today.

- I think the reading experience itself, the idea of sitting down, whether it's in a book or on an electronic device, and engaging yourself in a narrative, that will never change. Storytelling will never go out of style. Neither will the human desire to travel in our imaginations through good books. It doesn't matter whether it's on a device or in a booklet. I believe we will reach, probably in the not-too-distant future, a decision that it doesn't make much sense anymore to tear down trees to make books.



Like the original show, LeVar Burton is the host of the new Reading Rainbow app. GETTY IMAGES

YouTube comment mashup book material?

Experimentation. Two guys take a music concept and bring it to the literary world

MICHELLE CASTILLO
Metro World News in London

We've all heard of mashup artists who take clips of popular songs and put them together to create a new composition. We've seen videos from YouTube users who take clips from other videos and make a new project out of them. Now, two men from Germany have attempted to string together YouTube user comments and create Amazon Kindle eBooks out of them.

"The mashup/remix is the main cultural concept of our times," Ghost Writers co-creator Luc Gross told Metro World News by email.

"(It) always has been. With the universal media — the metamedium computer — this only becomes more obvious."

But, digital publisher Gross — who is also known as "Traumawein" — and Bern-

hard-based programmer and media artist Bernhard Bauch haven't just made mashup books: They've created a product composed of user-generated content that is intended to be sold directly to the user.

Due to the Ghost Writers project, thousands of ebook miniseries composed from user comments flooded the Amazon Kindle database, with titles like "A lot was been hard and Weird song you cute." The project was intended to raise authorship questions about who rightfully owns YouTube comments and videos and inspire other ideas that are conducive to the ebook format.

Gross explained that Bauch created a "comment suckers" program that pulled user comments from the YouTube videos. The themes of the books were drawn from the different Amazon Kindle categories, and then turned into dramas by a "book compiler" program.

The first thousand books they released were about kittens. The last hundred books included topics such as discussions about violence and children who blamed their

parents on Facebook.

While the stories might not have been completely grammatically correct, the bots were able to put the comments together in a way that created a cohesive story — a wacky, nonsensical narrative but a story nonetheless.

"To us all of those dramas make sense," Gross said. "Besides the stories, they all hold a certain beauty of poetry. It's a YouTube slang on its very own."

Gross' favourite title was "Sparta My Have." "Though the more you hear a title, the more it becomes a classic," he said.

Then Kindle bots placed them for sale on Amazon's ebook database, a service that the artists frequently bought their digital publications from. The creators decided to release a large quantity of books because they felt it would "generate much more impact" than a few selected titles.

Unfortunately, Amazon Kindle pulled all the books because they "could lead to a poor customer experience."

However, the creators intend to release a Twitter stream with all the texts starting June 26.

MICHELLE WILLIAMS SETH ROGEN LUKE KIRBY AND SARAH SILVERMAN



"MICHELLE WILLIAMS AND SETH ROGEN BOTH HIT CAREER HIGHS."

- Joshua Rothkopf, TIME OUT NEW YORK



"A THRILLING AND UNPREDICTABLE RIDE, AND A HEARTBREAKING LOVE STORY."

- Andrew O'Hehir, SALON



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A SARAH POLLEY FILM

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Queen of the rom-com, Nora Ephron leaves behind a trail-blazing legacy

Remembering a humorist. Writer set the standard for mixing comedy and romance, and penning parts for Meg Ryan

NED
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Metro World News in Hollywood

Screenwriter, director and author Nora Ephron died Tuesday in California at the age of 71 after a private battle with leukemia. She leaves behind a body of work that includes *When Harry Met Sally*, *Sleepless in Seattle* and *Julie and Julia*. Here are some things pop culture would be missing without Ephron.

The modern romantic comedy

With films like *When Harry Met Sally* and *Sleepless in Seattle*, Ephron set the standard for the rom-coms of to-



Nora Ephron wrote some of the best (and earliest) romantic comedies. GETTY IMAGES

day — and everyone else has just been trying to match her. In fact, those two films often end up duking it out for the top spot on Best Romantic Comedy lists.

That orgasm scene

Speaking of *When Harry Met Sally*, the film's most famous scene features Meg Ryan proving to Billy Crystal just how convincingly a woman



The infamous orgasm scene in *When Harry Met Sally* was a game-changer for female sexuality in film. HANDOUT

can fake an orgasm. But aside from being outrageously funny, it also pushed frank discussions of female sexuality forward in a way mainstream movies usually can't. The scene also turned "I'll have what she's having" into a catchphrase.

Meg Ryan's career

Meg Ryan's greatest screen successes came in a trio of ro-

mantic comedies either written or directed by Ephron: *When Harry Met Sally*, *Sleepless in Seattle* and *You've Got Mail*. She's never been better than when working with Ephron.

Meryl Streep as Julia Child

Sure, Streep might have won an Oscar for playing Margaret Thatcher in the *Iron Lady* and was only nominated for

one for *Julie and Julia*, but her job of transforming into the famous chef was just as amazing — and a lot funnier. Streep also brought Ephron's words to life in *Silkwood* and *Heartburn*, the latter based on Ephron's marriage to Carl Bernstein.

Loads of wisdom

Ephron, an avid columnist and author as well as a film-

Celebrities react

- Billy Crystal, star, *When Harry Met Sally*. "I am very sad to learn of Nora's passing. She was a brilliant writer and humorist. Being her Harry to Meg's Sally will always have a special place in my heart. I was very lucky to get to say her words."
- Rosie O'Donnell, co-star, *Sleepless in Seattle*. "I am devastated. Nora was a close friend and will be missed terribly."

maker, leaves behind plenty of advice for living a better life, like this gem: "You do get to a certain point in life where you have to realistically, I think, understand that the days are getting shorter, and you can't put things off thinking you'll get to them someday. If you really want to do them, you better do them..."

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ScarJo could get paid for leaked nude pics

Scarlett Johansson could be compensated more than \$66,000 for having nude photos leaked in 2011, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Federal prosecutors suggest in a sentencing memo that Christopher Cheney, who pleaded guilty to nine counts of hacking, compensate some of his high-profile targets, including Johansson.

They also suggest \$7,500 for Christina Aguilera and \$76,767.35 for Secret Life of the American Teenager star Renee Olstead.

In addition, prosecutors are suggesting a 71-month prison sentence for Cheney.



Imagine a Drake-Chris Brown boxing match

Since their alleged feud erupted in a nightclub brawl last week, Drake and Chris Brown have become very public rivals. And now some folks would like to see them duke it out in the ring. Billionaire Alki David is offering the R&B stars \$1 million each — plus an additional million for charity — to strap on gloves for a pay-per-view box-

ing match, according to the New York Daily News. Boxing promoter Damon Feldman, who's handling the proposed event, thinks it's a brilliant idea, naturally.

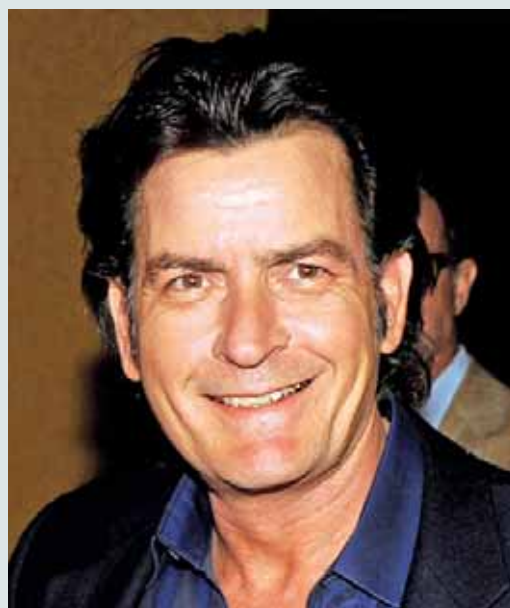
"Obviously they have a grudge. It's just three 1-minute rounds. No one will get seriously hurt," he tells the newspaper.

"I would love to have Rihanna as the ring girl."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Charlie Sheen, you win this time

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

Reports that Charlie Sheen expertly and enthusiastically dismantled another Ritz-Carlton hotel room don't seem to be holding up. While Us magazine.com claims the actor trashed his suite during a

weekend-long party while in New York with ex-wife Denise Richards — which he actually famously did in 2011 before landing in the hospital — his reps and hotel employees are denying he was anything but a well-behaved guest.

TMZ obtained a copy of the bill — why yes, we did feel creepy reading it — and Sheen's version might hold up: Your mom could do more damage to the mini-bar, and we're pretty sure dry-cleaning isn't a concern when there are coke-dusted porn stars to attend to.



John Travolta. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Travolta surfaces, engages in red-carpet PDA with wife

John Travolta made his first public appearance since being hit with a cavalcade of sexual misconduct lawsuits from various service industry men, and it appears he decided actions would speak louder than words.

Travolta hit the red carpet for the premiere of his latest film, Oliver Stone's Savages, and instead of stopping to give any interviews, he and wife Kelly Preston put on an impres-

sive show of public displays of affection, groping and kissing each other all the way down the carpet, according to Hollyscoop.

The couple literally could not — or at least would not — keep their hands off each other.

The appearance came just hours after a male cruise ship employee filed a federal suit against Travolta claiming sexual misconduct.

Did Depp cheat on Paradis?

Johnny Depp recently bought Amber Heard a horse, but he may have been spending some extra-curricular time with his former Rum Diary co-star before splitting with

longtime partner Vanessa Paradis.

"He's smitten by her. They started sleeping together during the press tour," a source tells Us Weekly.

As for Paradis, she wasn't amused — another source heard her scream, "If I see her, I'll drown her!"

Noted, Vanessa. And with that, we are officially done talking about your split.

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Summer hair SOS

Looking good.

Summer has officially arrived, but too much heat, salt and chlorine can really mess with your hair. Now is the perfect time to give your locks some serious TLC. We explain how.

ROMINA
MCGUINNNESS
Metro World News in London

This year's schizophrenic weather conditions — scorching heat one day, muggy and wet the next — have probably frazzled and weakened your hair.

Celebrity hair stylist Tommy Buckett, from New York, who has tamed the manes of Ashley Olsen and Emma Stone, talks us through a super simple summer hair-care routine.

Cover up

You've been so focused on getting your body beach ready that you've neglected your hair.

Too much chlorine, sea salt and exposure to the sunlight will cause your hair to look dull and damaged, explains Buckett.

"It's not just your skin that needs protecting. All these things can strip your colour and dry out your hair. So if you want to enjoy the sunshine,

Top 3 fuss-free summer 'dos

Beachy. Blake Lively's long, loose layers are the ultimate beach look.



Pixie. A cropped haircut like Carey Mulligan's is low maintenance and will wipe years off your face.



Bob. Layered hair cut just above the neck, like Miley Cyrus, is non-committal and easy curl.

you'll have to protect your hair. Wear a hat or a scarf to cover your locks or use a UV protectant spray," says Buckett.

Damage control

No matter how many times you pin or scrape wet hair back it ends up getting stuck to your clammy forehead.

There's no escaping the heat and humidity.

It's easier to damage wet so avoid pulling it up until it's dry.

"Your hair is like a rubber band. It can only be pulled so much before it loses its elasticity and snaps. Over time, pulling it back too tight will cause it to snap where the elastic band is placed.

Loosely tie your hair up or use little tortoise-shell clips if you want to avoid breaking it,"

adds Buckett.

The perfect beach wave

Some people (rather annoyingly) are born with natural loose waves. Brazilian model Gisele Bündchen is the poster girl for sexy beach hair. For those that aren't, there's a quick-fix solution. "The perfect beach wave can be achieved by spraying sea salt spray and using a diffuser.

While drying your hair (it's fine to blow-dry your hair just as long as you make sure you're using a heat protector) twist it in big chunks to create a perfect wave," recommends the hairstylist. And if at the end of the day you want to wash out all the products, sand and waves that's fine. Just remember to always use a conditioner. "Summer hair gets dirtier quicker," he says.



We fixed your hair, but the earrings are up to you GETTY IMAGES

3 LIFE

Fashion Flash

Welcome to the Jersey store: Jacob launches new collection

Jacob has fans of jersey in mind as it readies to roll out its new casual chic collection. The Montreal-based retailer will debut Jersey by Jacob next month. The collection includes a selection of camisoles, T-shirts, cardigans, sweaters, leggings, pants, dresses, jackets and scarves in a palette of grey, black and white with touches of pink. In addition to the use of jersey, which is in the moniker for the new line, the collection will also be crafted with a variety of other fabrics such as knitwear, ponte and fleece. Apparel and accessories in the collection will range from \$19 to \$79. It will be available at the retailer's 85 stores across Canada and online at jacob.ca.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Web



Milan menswear designers dispel gloom over euro-land with a bright summer 2013

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Easy bathroom upgrades that won't break the bank

Decor ideas. It's a small space with infinite possibilities — why not give your loo a little love?



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Q: I can't do a full-on renovation of my 12-year-old condo bathroom right now, but I would like to give it a mini-makeover to add more comfort and style. What can I do?
Deirdre Miller, London, Ont.

A: With any short-term decoration project I always recommend going dramatic; this gives you the biggest bang for your buck and creates some drama to tie you over until you can do a full reno.

Here are some ideas and great products that are homeowner-friendly and provide big impact in your bathroom.

I suggest using most of your budget on neutral-coloured products and having fun with punchy towels or small accessories on a smaller budget. This gives you longevity, and it will stay in style until you are ready to make big changes.

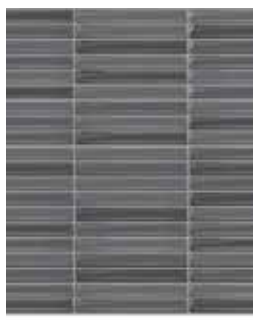
Shower with ease: Turn a standard tub into a flexible shower spa with the Hydorrail by Kohler. Choose



Kohler's Hydorrail Column, \$441 and up KOHLER.CA



Single Brushed Steel Wall Hook, \$17 CRATEANDBARREL.CA



Smart Tiles' Carbon Mosaik, \$11, HOMEDEPOT.CA

Embrace a new colour

Paint all the remaining wall and ceiling the same colour to add drama to the space.

- **Go dramatic.** A deep grey will blend the brushed metal, carbon tiles and other neutral accessories together and allow other punchy-coloured items to show up beautifully. Wall Street CSP-20, Benjamin Moore Paints. Cost: \$50 to \$100.

whichever showerhead works for your comfort and install it easily over your existing tile. It's a great way to turn your tub area into a personal retreat without renovating the entire tub and shower. It'll be dollars spent on just you and your comfort. Cost: \$450 to \$1,700.

Peel and stick: I love the fun peel-and-stick tiles offer for a kitchen backsplash or in a bathroom. Smart Tile's Carbon Mosaik sheets are made of a gel that make the tiles look 3D. Easy to cut and maintain, simple peel-and-stick tiles on an entire wall in the bath (outside of shower area) creates a trendsetting look and a

Sometimes it's the little things

"Little touches like candles, wastebaskets and rugs create that spa feeling when needed. Try to choose accessories that are both decorative and useful."



Pebble Mat, \$50, CB2 CB2.CA

high-end focal wall. Cost: \$250 to \$500.

Modern Accessories: With a modern towel rod, shower curtains and hooks will instantly improve and update the look of the bathroom. I like the brushed steel and square designs of Crate and Barrel's Brushed Steel Wall Hooks as they appear to be much more high-end than their price. Try adding two in the shower area for personal towels and one on the back of door for a luxe robe. Cost: \$100 to \$200.

Go tall: Mounting an out-

side shower curtain at ceiling height and hanging a long decorative drape hides the shower area, and adds a sense of height to the bathroom while making the room feel like a powder room for guests. Use a synthetic fabric for your drape, and of course use a separate shower curtain liner behind the drape to protect it. Cost: \$100 to \$300.

Spa Feelings: Little touches like candles, wastebaskets and rugs create that spa feeling when needed. Try to choose accessories that are both decorative and useful; that way guests won't feel like they've invaded your private spa space. I love the smooth pebble mat from CB2; it massages the feet and adds a cool touch when getting out of a warm shower. Cost: \$100 to \$400.

All hands on deck!

The Canada Day long weekend is here, which means barbecues, sunshine, long chats and cool drinks — and where better to enjoy these activities than on a beautiful deck!

Landscape professionals Jake and Joel Moss set homeowners up with the yard of a lifetime on Yardcore, and you can bet their projects have featured many beautiful backyard decks.

First steps

Decks provide an extra space to lounge and dine alfresco. They can highlight the design of a yard and maximize outdoor space, and can also be installed where a patio cannot such as on slopes or a rocky terrain.

There are a variety of shapes and materials to choose from but before getting started it's best to consult your city's building codes for any requirements on railing and landing heights.

Selecting materials

There are many different decking materials to choose from and it's a good idea to evaluate the various options before getting started.

Pressure-treated wood is probably the most popular as there is a wide variety of colour and grain options. With this product you can refinish scratches and stains yourself, although it is prone to weathering and splitting.

An alternative is aluminum decking which can last for decades as it is strong, rust-proof and watertight and can also allow for waterproof storage underneath. This choice is pricey and the textured surfaces of aluminum can trap dirt.

A third option is composite decking. This material doesn't require a sealer and can be made into curved shapes

Don't forget about seating

Installing a permanent wood bench will ensure that there's always enough seating space at a party; colourful pillows can also be added for a fun touch.

- **Cool ideas.** A bright umbrella will provide shade and can complement flowers. Investing in outdoor lighting will also ensure you enjoy your deck long into the warm summer nights.

which allows for a wide range of designs. It lasts longer than wood and is far more durable, but composites can fade and deep scratches and tough stains may require a board to be replaced.

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Grilled Shrimp Tacos go from food-truck staple to dinner-table fare

Grilled Shrimp Tacos



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whether you prefer your tacos hard and crunchy or lean more to the softer side, this grilled shrimp filling perfect for a summer barbecue will leave you satisfied.

Shrimp cook quickly, es-

pecially on the intense heat of the grill, so be sure to prep your other ingredients ahead of time and set out a buffet of toppings and tortillas.

Then just toss the shrimp

on the grill and in minutes you'll be enjoying summer just a little bit more.

1. Heat the grill to high.

2. Place the extra-large

shrimp in a large bowl. Season with salt, pepper and cumin, then toss to coat evenly.

3. Divide the shrimp among 6 skewers, threading them evenly without crowding them on the skewers. Do the same for the two medium red onions.

4. Using an oil-soaked paper towel held with tongs, lightly oil the grill grates. Grill the extra-large shrimp for 2 minutes per side and the red onions for 5 minutes per side.

5. Chop the grilled red on-

ions and place in a medium bowl. Stir in the celery, plum tomatoes, chipotle pepper in adobo sauce and garlic. Season with salt and black pepper. Set aside.

6. In a small bowl, toss the peeled, pitted and diced avocado with the lime juice. In another small bowl, stir together the sour cream and cilantro.

7. To serve, set the shrimp, red onion salsa, avocado and sour cream on the table with the taco shells or tortillas. Diners can assemble their own tacos.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 lb extra-large shrimp
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp ground cumin
- 2 medium red onions, sliced
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 4 plum tomatoes, chopped
- 1 chipotle pepper in adobo sauce, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 avocado, peeled, pitted and diced
- Juice of 1 lime
- 1/2 cup low-fat sour cream
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 8 taco shells or 6-inch tortillas

Book of the week

Street eats love



The best street food is bold, delicious, surprising, over-the-top and eatable on the run. And the best part is now you can make it at home.

Researched by John T. Edge, The Truck Food Cookbook delivers 150 recipes from America's best restaurants on wheels from L.A. and New York to Portland, Austin and more. Hundreds of full-colour photographs capture the lively street food scene and its hip and funky aesthetic.

The resulting menu includes eats such as: Crawfish Pies, Calexico Carne Asada Tacos, Falafel and Egg Hoagies, Cheesesteak Sandwiches, Sweet Potato Cupcakes, Kalbi Beef Sliders and more. METRO

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NHL

Ex-Mooseheads MVP gets tryout with Phoenix



Former Mooseheads MVP Carl Gelinas RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Former Halifax Mooseheads MVP Carl Gelinas will get a shot at an NHL contract with the Phoenix Coyotes.

According to La Presse, the Coyotes have invited the 20-year-old from Shawinigan, Que., to their training camp in September after he was passed over in his second straight NHL draft on the weekend.

The Baie-Comeau Drakkar forward, traded from the Mooseheads last July in the Nathan MacKinnon blockbuster, had 25 goals and 36 assists for 61 points in 63 games last season.

Gelinas, a fourth-round pick (72nd overall) of Halifax in 2009, led the Mooseheads in scoring in 2010-11, accumulating 26 goals and 28 assists for 54 points in 68 games.

The Mooseheads traded him along with Francis Turbide and three first-round picks in exchange for MacKinnon, who would not report to the Drakkar after being selected first overall in the 2011 QMJHL draft.

METRO

More at metronews.ca

For a rundown of all Nova Scotians and former Mooseheads under NHL contracts, visit Metro's Q Files blog at metronews.ca/qfiles.



Ivan Barbashev competes for Russia at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge. MATTHEW MURNAGHAN/HOCKEY CANADA

Wildcats select Russian No. 1

CHL. Barbashev expected to make 'immediate contribution'



MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Moncton Wildcats have taken another step toward becoming a QMJHL contender next season.

The Wildcats selected Russian Ivan Barbashev with the first-overall pick in the Canadian Hockey League

import draft on Wednesday, adding a five-foot-11, 175-pound forward who is expected to step right into the lineup.

"He's a good, solid two-way centre who plays both ends of the rink with good leadership and good character," said Wildcats head coach and general manager Danny Flynn. "We're really excited to add that type of player to our lineup."

Barbashev, turning 17, played in Russia's junior league last season but put himself on the map at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge in Windsor, Ont.,

where he captained his country to gold with four goals and two assists in five games.

The Wildcats also selected 18-year-old left-winger Dmitrij Jaskin from Slavia Praha of the Czech Extraliga with the 22nd-overall pick. Jaskin, a second-round pick of the St. Louis Blues in last Saturday's NHL draft, is also expected to make an immediate impact.

"I think he's got a chance to be a power forward (who can) contribute offensively," Flynn said.

The Halifax Mooseheads had a second-round pick,

97th overall, but decided early Wednesday to pass on the selection. They're expecting winger Martin Frk of the Czech Republic and defenceman Konrad Abeltshauser of Germany to fill their two import spots in 2012-13.

Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell had planned to use the pick, but said he changed his mind because he didn't want to draft a player and bring him to camp, only to end up having to send him home.

"We don't want to strain relationships with agents and it's not fair to the player," Russell explained.

NBL

Mississauga out as basketball franchise option

The National Basketball League of Canada officially ruled out Mississauga, Ont., as an expansion franchise at its annual owners meetings on Wednesday in Toronto.

Windsor, Ont., is the only remaining expansion possibility for the seven-team circuit, and league owners were scheduled to vote on it late Wednesday night.

The meetings continue today.

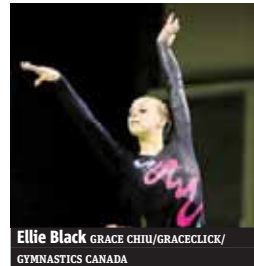
METRO

Gymnastics. Haligonian to compete on final day of Olympic camp

Ellie Black's bid to get to the 2012 Summer Olympics will be decided on Thursday afternoon.

The 16-year-old gymnast from Halifax will compete at the final day of Canada's Olympic selection trials in Gatineau, Que., needing a top-four finish to clinch a spot. A fifth gymnast will also be selected, but not necessarily the fifth-place finisher.

Black was sixth after Tuesday's opening day, but scoring for positions three through six are "very, very tight," according to her coach David Kikuchi.



Ellie Black GRACE CHIU/GRACECLICK/GYMNASTICS CANADA

"She has room to improve for next time, and has a good mindset," Kikuchi said.

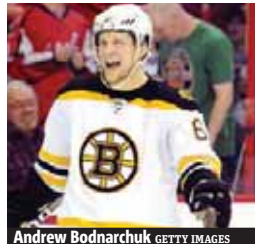
MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

NHL. Bruins' Andrew Bodnarchuk to go unrestricted July 1

Former Halifax Mooseheads captain Andrew Bodnarchuk is set to become an unrestricted free agent on July 1.

The Hammonds Plains native did not receive a qualifying offer from the Boston Bruins this week, according to ESPN.com, meaning the NHL club passed on an opportunity to keep his rights as a restricted free agent.

Bodnarchuk, 23, has spent four seasons under contract with the Bruins and played last season in the American Hockey League with the Providence Bruins. He had five goals and



Andrew Bodnarchuk GETTY IMAGES

12 assists for 17 points in 63 games. He is third in Mooseheads franchise history in defence scoring with 123 career points. METRO

4

SPORTS

Boxing

Clayton fundraising to send mom to Games

Olympic-bound boxer Custio Clayton of North Preston is holding a benefit dinner on Friday to raise money to help his mother travel to London to watch him compete. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. at the North Preston Community Centre. Clayton, a six-time Canadian amateur champion, is competing in the 69-kilogram category.

METRO

On the web



Should there be a rule for how much grunting is acceptable during a tennis match? The women's tour thinks so and is working on a plan to "drive excessive grunting" out of the sport. Scan the code for the story.

Wimbledon. Canadian Milos Raonic advances to second round

It took two days, but 21-year-old Canadian Milos Raonic is through to the second round at Wimbledon.

Raonic advanced with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 win over Colombian Santiago Giraldo on Wednesday.

Raonic led 2-0 and was about to serve for the match Tuesday night before rain and darkness forced officials to stop play. Raonic only needed 80 seconds to close out play Wednesday, setting up a second-round meeting with American Sam Querrey on Thursday.

The Thornhill, Ont., native said he treated Wednesday's short stint as a "practice session."

"I warmed up a bit long this morning," said Raonic. "Normally, I start matches serving well, so I was not too nervous."

The No. 21-seeded Raonic fired 20 aces, converted 93 per cent of his serves and had three service breaks while holding his serve throughout. Raonic had 44 winners and made just eight unforced errors.

Raonic was playing at the All-England Club for the first time since slipping and hurting his hip in a second-round match against Gilles Muller at last year's tournament. He was forced to retire from that match and remained sidelined until October after requiring surgery.



Milos Raonic PAUL GILHAM/GETTY IMAGES

Raonic said he's been more cautious on turf ever since.

"If I start slipping on the grass now, I stop going for my shots quite as much," he said. "That's the difference between now and last year."

"I had a match point Tuesday and if it had not been wet I could have pushed for it and gotten to the ball a bit earlier."

With the win, the six-foot-five Raonic faces the six-foot-six Querrey in a battle of big men. But Raonic said the two players don't use the same strategy.

"Querrey hits big but we play different games with different patterns," said Raonic, who hasn't competed against Querrey but has rallied with him in the past.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL. Players prep for talks with 31-man committee

Poised and confident. Calm and ready. There wasn't the slightest hint of tension in the air as the NHL Players' Association wrapped up executive-board meetings Wednesday and shifted its attention to the imminent negotiations on a new collective bargaining agreement.

"We're ready," said Don Fehr, the NHLPA's executive director. "The players are ready, I'm sure the owners are ready. It's time to start."

The first formal session will be held Friday in New

York. The sides also have plans to meet again late next week and will continue holding sessions until a new deal can be hammered out.

Fehr unveiled a 31-player negotiating committee that includes a true cross-section of the union's membership: Recognizable faces in Henrik Zetterberg, Shea Weber and Shane Doan; journeymen in Dominic Moore, Alex Auld and Craig Adams; and even John Tavares, who is only 21 years old and just completed his entry-level contract.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Stanley Cup winners set to tour

Thirteen American states, five Canadian provinces and its first-ever visit to Slovenia. The Stanley Cup will soon embark on a busy summer tour with the Los Angeles Kings. One of the greatest rewards that come with winning the iconic trophy is getting the opportunity to host it for a day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kickboxing

One Arm Bandit up for Espy

Canadian kickboxer Baxter (One Arm Bandit) Humby has been nominated for best male athlete with a disability in the Espy Awards. Humby, a native of Winnipeg, is missing a right hand as a result of his arm being caught on his mother's umbilical cord and severed while in the womb.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Spain players celebrate victory over Portugal on Wednesday in Donetsk, Ukraine. LAURENCE GRIFFITHS/GETTY IMAGES

Shootout sends Spain to finals

Euro 2012. Spain beats Portugal despite sputtering offence

As the European Championship whittles down to the final match, Spain's attack is still looking to find its form.

The defending champions reached their third straight major final by beating Portugal 4-2 in a penalty shootout on Wednesday following a 0-0 draw, but the Spanish team again failed to turn its overwhelming talent into scoring chances.

But maybe that doesn't matter. "We're playing better in defence than what the characteristics of our players would suggest," Spain coach Vicente del Bosque said. "That's what earns victories."

Spain dominated possession as it normally does, but lacked a cutting edge in front of goal at the Donbass Arena. It's not the first time at Euro 2012 that Spain's attack has failed to sparkle, and the team's lack of finishing up front could all be due to striker David Villa's injury absence.

On Wednesday, Del Bosque started little-used striker Al-

varo Negredo over Fernando Torres and Cesc Fabregas, who have scored two goals each at the tournament. Negredo was eventually replaced in the 54th minute by Fabregas, who ended up scoring the decisive penalty.

"Spain held more control after the substitutions," Portugal coach Paulo Bento said through a translator. "They put in two players that have very strong characteristics in attack. They had possession and we had to run a lot, so it was hard to get the ball back."

In the shootout, Xabi Alonso missed the first spot kick, but Andres Iniesta and Gerard

Pique scored before Fabregas completed the victory.

Spain, which is trying to win a third straight major title, will next face Germany or Italy in the final on Sunday at the Olympic Stadium in Kyiv. But the team's inability to score goals is still Spain's main worry.

"We have to improve in this aspect," Del Bosque said.

Luckily, the defence continues to be a strong point. The Spanish have conceded only six goals in their last 18 major tournament matches, including keeping nine clean sheets in knockout games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ricky Romero CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Romero's poor outing costs Jays

Two months ago the Red Sox hit bottom. Now they're playing sky high.

Boston won its fifth straight series with a 10-4 win Wednesday over the Toronto Blue Jays with six runs in the first inning against a wild Ricky Romero and with the help of David Ortiz's 399th career homer.

Romero was in trouble from the start. He had aver-

aged 4.4 walks per nine innings this season but walked a total of just nine batters in his previous four starts.

On Wednesday, Romero left after giving up six walks, seven hits and nine runs in three-plus innings.

After blowing a nine-run lead and losing to the New York Yankees 15-9 on April 21, the Red Sox were at 4-10 and

manager Bobby Valentine said, "If this isn't bottom, we'll find some new ends to the Earth."

They immediately turned it around with six straight wins and have the AL's third best record, 36-25, since that low point.

"I wasn't sure" that would be the bottom, Valentine said after Wednesday's win, "but I believed it." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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General Help



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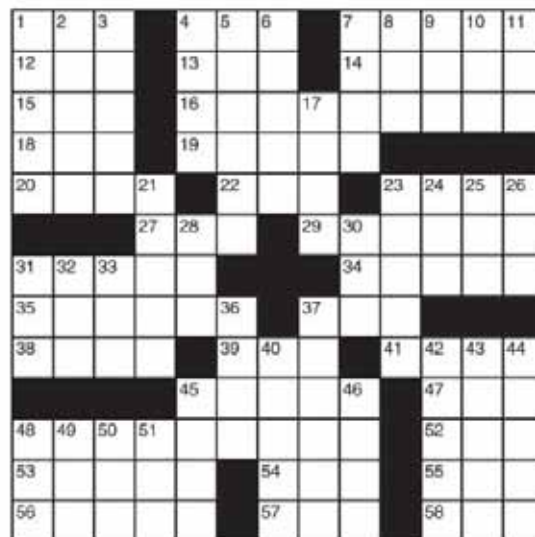
Across

- 1 Sphere
4 Monokini's lack
7 Pair
12 Chum
13 Rowing need
14 Comic actor Atkinson
15 Big bother
16 Pennants
18 "Flying Down to —"
19 Push
20 Grant's place
22 Ram's ma'am
23 Remark re Yorick
27 Corn spike
29 Governor
31 Tease goodnaturedly
34 Substantial
35 Taxpayers' fears
37 Baltimore newspaper
38 TV's Batman
39 Prune
41 Story
45 Leg bone
47 Crib
48 Startling headlines
52 Conclusion
53 Pile up
54 "Of course"
55 Past
56 Lips
57 Former flier

58 Do some landscap-
ing

Down

- 1 Dizzying designs
2 Sirius medium
3 Flourish
4 Employer
5 Newsmen Dan
6 Quiver occupant
7 Scottish slope
8 CD- —
9 Shock partner
10 Jam ingredient?
11 Navy rank (Abbr.)
17 24/7
21 Suit
23 Rep
24 Meadow
25 Pismire
26 Pigs' digs
28 Sternward
30 Aussie coat of arms
beast
31 Cornfield noise
32 Shade
33 Billboards
36 Svelte
37 Steeples
40 Follows orders
42 Perpendicular, at sea
43 Chuck Woolery's GSN show
44 Be philanthropic



- 45 Little bits
46 Helper (Abbr.)
48 Yon maiden
49 Massachusetts cape

- 50 Tatter
51 Before



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

How to play

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

SBG XCQIGMSGQ AOAM'S
IHS GMJHDB YSCWIY JM SBG
ICXRCDG, YI OS DJS WCQRG
"QGS HQM SJ YCMAGQ."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A GUY STUBBORNLY
REFUSED TO LET GO OF HIS METAL SODA CAN,
MIGHT YOU CALL HIM TIN-ACIOUS?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals D



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	6	4	3	1	7	5	8	9
8	8	3	6	4	5	7	1	2
1	5	7	8	2	9	3	4	6
5	4	2	1	6	3	8	9	7
7	1	9	4	5	8	6	2	3
6	3	6	9	7	2	4	5	1
3	2	1	7	8	4	9	6	5
4	7	5	2	8	6	1	3	8
6	9	8	5	3	1	2	7	4

Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20.

Your confidence may be high today but you would be wise not to let your enthusiasm get the better of you. It may turn people against you.

♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21.

What changes can you introduce to make your life more exciting? Give it some thought and when you come to the conclusion, draw up a plan.

♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20.

The only danger now is that you will focus on one aim to the exclusion of everything else and miss out on other possibilities. Don't switch off the world around you.

♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22.

Partners and colleagues are in a talkative mood and some of the things they have to say will not only be interesting but could even help your career.

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22.

You have a lot on your plate at the moment but the lion's share of your work is for the benefit of other people. That needs to change.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.

Planets are tempting you to make big claims for yourself, which could lead to problems when others discover you lack relevant experience.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22.

What happens today may seem chaotic but if you stand back and take a broader perspective of the situation you will see there is a pattern to events. Rise above petty issues.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.

A change of scene will do you a world of good. The more you are on the move, the more likely it is you will discover something, or someone, that makes life worth living again.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21.

You may have to use a bit of muscle to get what you need today but watch out you don't annoy someone whose assistance you will need in the very near future.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20.

Make big plans for the next few days — the bigger the better. What happens next week will help you turn your plans into reality.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb. 18.

You may be held back by circumstances beyond your control but don't fight it — go with the flow.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20.

The Sun in Cancer boosts your confidence but there is a danger today that you could get carried away and say or do something that upsets an authority figure you need to get along with. **SALLY BROMPTON**



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"I taught Gene Simmons this."
Matthew

THE AMARILLO GLOBE NEWS, MICHAEL SCHUMACHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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